



Garrison News



Volume 6, Issue 8

Since 1998

August 2003

Published by
The Strategic Planning Office
Bldg 1001 Rm W316,
ATTN: Cathy Davis, 618-7357

MISSION

U.S. Army Garrison provides and maintains the installation infrastructure to:

- support power projection and
ning of III Corps units/soldiers;
- provide a quality living and working
environment for soldiers, families,
retirees, and authorized civilians;
- sustain an effective partnership with
our surrounding communities;
- and support the III Corps / Fort Hood
transformation process.

VISION

The Army's model power projection platform, training installation, and community. A great place to train, work, and live.

HOOD HOWDY – 6 AUG

The Army Community Service Hood Howdy Newcomers' Information Fair will be conducted on **6 Aug, 0900 -1300, at the Officers' Club**. This is a great opportunity for soldiers and family members to get information about agencies and activities in the area. Plus, there will be free food sampling and "give aways." (DCA)

TSP CATCH UP CONTRIBUTIONS UPDATE

Thrift Savings Plan catch-up contributions are additional tax-deferred contributions available to TSP participants age 50 or older who are already contributing either the maximum TSP contribution amount allowed or a dollar amount to any qualified plan which will result in reaching the IRS elective deferral limit by the end of the

year. In order to qualify, employees must be in a pay status, and must not be in the 6-month non-contribution period after receiving a financial hardship in-service withdrawal. The annual elective deferral limit for regular TSP contributions is \$12,000 for 2003. Catch-up contributions are limited to \$2,000 for 2003. Please view the [FAQ section](#) on the ABC-C website for detailed information about TSP catch-up.

Beginning August 24, 2003, eligible Department of the Army civilian employees may make TSP catch-up contribution elections electronically via the Employee Benefits Information System (EBIS) web application at <https://www.abc.army.mil> or the Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) automated telephone system at 1-877-276-9287 (see the [ABC-C Telephone Menu](#) on the ABC-C web site for OCONUS phone numbers). Hard copy enrollment forms will not be accepted. The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), the DoD payroll system, will not begin to process catch-up contribution deductions until the pay period beginning September 7, 2003.

Publicity from the Thrift Investment Board (TIB) and several non-official publications have indicated elections to contribute could be submitted as early as July 2003 with August effective dates. However, for all Federal agencies, implementation of this program is dependent upon adaptation of personnel and payroll systems to allow for deduction of catch-up contributions. The automated enrollment systems EBIS and IVRS could not be turned on to

accept these elections until the data could flow to the Defense Civilian Personnel Data System (DCPDS) and on to the DFAS systems.

The delay in implementing the program does not affect the maximum contribution amount of \$2,000 for 2003. Eligible employees considering participation in this new benefit are encouraged to start thinking about the amount to have each pay date if they intend to contribute the maximum \$2,000 in 2003. An example of how to arrive at that amount, as well as other useful information, can be found under "TSP Catch-Up Contributions" at <https://www.abc.army.mil>. ABC-C Counselors are available at 1-877-276-9287 to answer questions regarding TSP catch-up contributions.

To speak with an ABC-C counselor you will need a Personal Identification Number (PIN) or to access ABC-C using EBIS you will need a PIN number and password. Do you have your PIN number and password? Need help getting one? The Support Section at Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC) will be glad to help you. Please call 288-2059 or 288-2016 to schedule an appointment.

Continuous Improvement is Everywhere

Stephen Covey talks about principle-centered paradigms in his book, *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. He relates that principles are natural laws that cannot be broken, and describes paradigms as "ways" we see the world in terms of perceiving, understanding, and interpreting. He goes on to say that our paradigms can change (shift) when basic principles of effective living

are introduced. We can make a conscious “choice” to learn and integrate those principles into our basic character to experience true success. Some of the principles that attribute to success are integrity, humility, fidelity, courage, justice, and industry. This success or empowerment can be exercised to achieve individual, team, or organizational objectives. Isn’t that versatile?

For empowerment to flourish, there must responsibility, accountability, and a way to constantly get better or grow. How do we know if we are improving or growing as individuals, teams or organizations? One way to measure growth is through applying continuous improvement principles. Such a system of continuous improvement principles is used everyday across this installation in setting performance expectations and standards, evaluating performance results, identifying areas to improve, and aligning our processes with customer satisfaction.

Here are some basic continuous improvement principles that can be used to measure personal growth.

- (a) Recognizing opportunities to develop new skills
- (b) Establishing objectives that stretch your ability
- (c) Having confidence in yourself
- (d) Making effective use of time, money, and resources
- (e) Having a future vision
- (f) Interacting well with coworkers
- (g) Allocating time for work, family, and self
- (h) Placing team goals above individual goals
- (i) Willing to make sacrifices for the success of your team

Ask yourself if this is often, sometimes or never? Then do a count. (SPO)

Contracting Excellence

Contracting Command conducted a Self-Assessment during Mar - May 03, culminating

in a Contract Management Review by a team from the Army Contracting Agency (ACA) Southern Region, the week of 23 Jun 03. CCMD received the highest rating of “Outstanding” by the inspection team. Team representatives met with several activities who are supported by CCMD, and their input was important and very appreciated. The team reported that CCMD displayed numerous best business practices that would be shared across the ACA and that the unit’s Contingency Contracting Program was a model for the Army. During the review week, the ACA Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting, COL Chuck Guta, presented five FORSCOM Contracting Awards to CCMD personnel. CCMD was awarded the FORSCOM Installation Contracting Excellence Award, Sarah Corley was recognized as Contracting Professional of the Year; Nancy Brown received Special Recognition for Contracting Innovation; MAJ Dave Kreun received Contracting Professional of the Year, Officer award; and the Contracting Professional of the Year, NCO was awarded to SFC Ben Fernandez. (CCMD)

“No More Training Wheels”

Peanut Butter and Jelly Management is the title of a book written by Chris and Reina Komisarjevsky! This team of authors recognizes that “peanut butter and jelly management” is the perfect term to link what happens in the home, bringing up children, to what happens in the workplace, leading adults. They see that raising kids (10 children) and managing adults call for many of the same skills and attributes. In this article and a few future articles, I will provide quotes from their book that hopefully will stimulate your thoughts, interest and participation in the **Army Suggestion Program**.

Chapter eight focuses on the courage that leaders must

have to trust letting their employees perform on their own.

“Four-year old Stephen woke up one morning and informed the family that the training wheels on his bicycle must be taken off and thrown in the trash can that very day. So Dad and Stephen went together to the garage to locate the right-size wrench. They tried different ones until they found one that fit. Dad made the first few turns to loosen the nuts, then Stephen finished the job by unscrewing them all the way and removing the training wheel brackets from the bolts. When both had been lifted off, Stephen took them, one at a time, and with a proud flourish threw them into the trash can.”

You know the scenario that followed. Dad held onto the back of the bike as he gave it a gentle push and ran with the bike while holding onto the seat. Little did Stephen realize how hard it would be to pedal, hold the handlebars straight. He wasn’t successful at first, but with practice, he became more confident and improved his riding skills. Now came the question parents dread. *When do you let the bike—and your child—go?*

This is the same with leaders on the job. The critical decision is *when to let go*. Do you let one of your staff go by herself to that critical business meeting, make that important decision or fly solo at that crucial presentation?

The authors give the following advice:

- Have the courage to trust your own judgment. Have confidence in yourself, then, let them go at it.
- Push them off. . . and let them go. If they fail, they will learn from it. If they succeed, they will learn too.
- Delegate and provide the tools for them to do the job.
- Give responsibility—plus authority.

- When they fall, encourage them to go at it again.
- But, if they just can't do it, no matter how hard they try and how much you encourage them, move on. Both of you talk about it, acknowledge the facts as they are and move on.

The **Army Suggestion Program** recognizes those who have the courage to show their innovation and make a difference in our workplace. For more information call Ms Soliz at 287-IDEA. (SPO)

FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM (FAP)

School days have begun with decisions to be made about classes, school supplies, lunch ideas, wardrobes, extra-curricular activities, whether your student will drive to school this year, dropping off/picking up students and their friends..... Any or all of these can generate stress. Please join the FAP staff as these areas are explored during Stress Management Training. Call 286-6774 to register for these classes:

- ❖ Stress/Anger/Conflict Management Workshop conducted the second and forth Tuesday of each month, 12 & 26 Aug 03, Soldier Development Center, bldg. 33009, 0900-1600
- ❖ Relationship Enrichment Program: Aug 20, 4ID Ironhorse Readiness Center bldg. 9409, 1200-1700
- ❖ FAP Car Safety Seat Education and Inspection Program: 29 Aug 03, Sprocket Auto Craft Center
- ❖ Family Advocacy Victim Advocacy Program: bldg. 9001, Services-0730-1630
- ❖ Parenting Issues Forum meets each Tuesday, 5, 12, 19, 26 Aug 03, at the Lane Volunteer Center, Building 16005, 0930-1130.

Has a new baby arrived in your home with needs and support requirements that present new challenges for your family? If you are looking for 'how-to' tools,

strategies, and information, please call the Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program, New Parent Support Program Plus (NPSP+) at 287-2286. The NPSP+ Home Visitors at Fort Hood are a team of Registered Nurses and Masters-level Social Workers who work with parents to explore the wonderful adventures of parenthood, develop and strengthen parenting skills, enhance their confidence as parents, and assist parents in meeting the challenges of parenting in a military community. These wonderful services are provided at no cost in the homes of our military families where the child and parents might be most comfortable or in an office setting, if the family prefers. Every Wednesday NPSP+ presents "Explore, Learning, and Play" from 0930-1100 at the Child and Youth Services, Bronco Youth Center, Bldg 6602. On the fourth Wednesday, the NPSP+ Support Group meets in conjunction with Explore, Learning, and Play. Resource material is available to parents that promote the development of a safe, caring environment for the military child.

The Family Advocacy Victim Advocacy Program provides services for victims of Domestic Violence in crisis situations. Information is available on protective orders, transitional compensation, and other resources required to support victims experiencing family violence.

There is no cost to participate in FAP activities. Childcare is provided. For more information about A&P Branch activities, please call 286-6774 / 287-2286 or visit the FAP offices in Albee Hall, Building 9001. (DCA)

DPW Assists Set-Up for 4th of July Festivities

What started as a tasking from the III Corps Command Group to the 3rd Signal Battalion to conduct a 4th of July festival, ultimately turned into a family affair for the Directorate of Public Works.

Starting in early January, SGM Douglas began coordinating the festival activities for DPW with mentorship provided by last year's fest guru, Daniel Schultz from **Plans and Projects Division**. Elements of DPW began attending planning sessions to establish the base line support required from our resources to support this massive celebration. Several tasks were identified in the Operation Order to include services required from several DPW divisions together with the Command Group, Plans and Projects, Services, Maintenance, Environmental, and the Fire and Emergency Services. **Services Division's** own Shirley Howard provided support in coordinating the Portable Latrine, dumpster and recycle bins needed for the festival. Luis Holden ensured the grass was mowed and Larry Ward took care of ant spraying. April Sanchez and Wayne Tafoya ensured digging permits were in place, and Mike Rynard provided GIS maps for the event planning.



Maintenance Division got the brunt of the tasks to spruce up the stadium in preparation for the expected crowds. Larry Pohlman and Doug Allen's **Road and Grounds** crew did everything from sweeping the festival grounds to placing the 75 plus concrete and plastic barriers needed to control the traffic. The crews worked many long days in trimming trees, installing fencing around the grounds, and repairing road



shoulders. Clifford Blair, Donald Bridenstine, Gerald Cutler, Kim Fitzgerald, Victor Flores, Joe Grigsby, Billy James, Billy Jennings, James McMeens, Allen Parker, Willie Thomas, David Walker, and Curtis Wolf all sighed a breath of relief once the weekend was completed on Sunday, July 6th. Claude Callahan also provided support to the effort by providing a thrilling parachute jump into the stadium prior to the Air Force jet Fly By's. Last but not least, the **Sign Shop** excelled and quickly produced 21 directional signs for a very late tasking. Marty Stanek, Cecile Johnson and Kevin Kersh dove in and completed the task in record time. The **External Electric Shop** coordinated and provided the electrical service for the whole effort. Over 3000 feet of electrical cord was purchased and prepared for the event catering to 30 Family Readiness Group booths, a carnival with several large rides, a television broadcasting van, and a large stage for the evening entertainment. Services prior to the event included: repairing existing stadium electrical circuits, repairing stadium field lights, and replacing burnt streetlights surrounding the 3-block area. Gary Blanchard's crew included Garry Moore, Butch Beimer, Van Max Lee, Cody Tippit, Shorty Smith, and Mark Williams. Jerry and Terry Tippit provided electrical services as standby agents for DPW during the event on July 4th. **Area Shop 93** got into the action and provided Walter Tschetter as the stand by Plumber for the day's event. He ensured the water flowed and the sprinkler system was in good repair. Ephram Ebio from **Utilities** also kept the water flowing from the hydrant system around the stadium just in case the



firemen needed them. DPW's **Environmental Division** Recycle champion Jaycee Turnquist provided needed direction, recycle bins and grease barrels for the event. The **Fire and Emergency Services Division** was tasked with providing a manned Command Vehicle for the event, which was handled by Billy Rhoads and J.D. Reavis. Jerry Faught, Michael Stewart, Nicholas Radoe and Robert Caughron all received the pleasure of displaying the Hook and Ladder Truck and answering the many questions from the crowd. As you can see, this highly visible and successful event was truly a "Family Affair" for the professionals of the DPW. (DPW)

EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP)

The Advocacy and Prevention Branch, Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), would like you to come join us as we celebrate the close of summer! The "Sea Dragons" meet every Thursday, 1800-1900, at the Abrams Fitness Center. Anyone with a special needs child can enjoy a fun filled evening of swimming for the whole family, at no cost. On 20 August, 1230-1430, Comanche (Post) Chapel, EFMP will conduct their monthly Orientation for newly assigned and newly identified soldiers who have family members with special needs. On 25 August, 1800-2000, the EFMP Support Group meets to share common experiences and challenges unique to special needs families; it's a great way to learn about new information and resources. The group meets at the Lane Volunteer Center, building 16005, Old Ironside Dr and Hood Rd. Come join all the fun, meet new people, and learn more about what is going on with special needs families! In addition, a web site has been set up for military families with special medical or educational needs - <http://mfrc.calib.com/snn>. Check

it out and discover the resources that are available for you.

For more information, please call the EFMP office at 287-6070/1673, or come visit us at Albee Hall, Building 9001, 20th/Battalion. (DCA)

ACAP CENTER

Spouses of transitioning soldiers who are enrolled in ACAP are also encouraged to attend the Transition Assistance Workshop (TAP), a three day program dedicated to providing valuable information and introducing participants to topics such as personal appraisal, career exploration, resume writing, interviewing, and more. You do not have to be currently employed, looking for employment, or even ever have worked at all! Great information to assist you in the transition and beyond! For more information call the ACAP Center at 288-ACAP or 288-JOBS.

The ACAP Center is open for business on August 29, a training holiday, and closed on Labor Day! This is a great time to use ACAP XXI services, work with the counselors, and practice your interviewing skills on our special workstations. Call or come by the ACAP Center in the new Copeland Soldiers Service Center, building 18010 (Hood Rd. and Battalion Ave.), third floor, B wing. (AG)

ACS- Employment Readiness Branch

The mobile military lifestyle can restrict a military spouse's opportunities for employment and career advancement. Finding satisfactory employment and achieving career goals in the midst of frequent relocations to economically and geographically diverse duty stations requires job search skills and career planning.

The ACS Employment Readiness Branch (ERB) provides assistance to military spouses. Services include:

- ✓ Job Search Assistance
- ✓ Career Counseling and Coaching

- ✓ Centralized Job Bank
- ✓ Resume/Job Application Development
- ✓ Employment Education and Training Workshops

Visit the Fort Hood ERB office at Building 4220, South 77th Street. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm except federal holidays. (DCA)

Hood Hero Awards Luncheon

The Commanding General's Quarterly Hood Hero Awards Luncheon was held at the Killeen Civic and Conference Center on 1 August. The luncheon and ceremony were attended by soldiers and civilians from Fort Hood and Fort Hood's partners from the surrounding communities.

Awards were presented to:

Customer Service Excellence, Individual-Eva Eutsey, DOL; **Customer Service Excellence**, Team-Arrival/Departure Airfield Control Group, DOL; **Outstanding Commitment to a Job**, Individual-Steven Pfeiffer, contractor with ACofS, G3; **Best Self Help/U-Do-It**-312th Military Intelligence Bn; **Individual Quality**-SPC Kenneth Wilkerson, DOL; **40 Years Civilian Length of Service**-Willie Shipman and Henry Taff, both from DCA; **Police Officer of the Quarter**-SPC Jasmin Reedy; **Civilian Firefighter of the Quarter**-Brian J. Lambert; **Civilian Employees of the Quarter**-Ann Hatfield, DCA, Roy Stewart, DPW, and Shelia Curtis, DCA; **Volunteer of the Quarter**-Garlan Martens; **Youth Volunteer of the Quarter**-Yasheka Lyles; **Safety**-Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade 1CD; HHD, Engineer Bde, 1CD; 1/82d FA, 1CD; C Btry, 1/82d FA, 1CD; A Co, 1/227th Aviation Reg, 1CD; B Co, 1/227th Aviation Reg, 1CD; C Co, 1/227th Aviation Reg; 68th Chemical Co, 1CD; **Retention Excellence**-Garrison Command, 4th ID, 3d Personnel Grp, 1st CD; 13th Finance Group
Congressman Chet Edwards was presented the

"Legislator of the Year" award by Gen (Ret) Gordon Sullivan.

The next Hood Hero awards luncheon is 31 Oct, 1130-1300, at the Fort Hood Officers' Club. Nominations are due 10 Oct.

Questions concerning the Hood Hero Awards Program should be directed to Cathy Davis, 618-7357. (SPO)

HOOAH!

(by GEN (Ret) Gordon Sullivan)

"Hooah!" We have all heard it. We have all said it. For America's Army today, "Hooah!" is more than just a word. It summarizes what we are doing, and why we do it. This word is important. Many of you have heard me say that I do not know exactly how to spell "Hooah!" and I have received lots of information about how this term may have originated.

The 2d Cavalry Regiment says it arose in the 1840s during campaigns in south Florida, and spell it "Hough!" In the 3d Armored Cavalry, the word is "Aieeah!" The Rangers claim "Hooah!" as one of their war cries....

What is important about "Hooah!" involves the thought behind this expression. It means that we have kept our fighting edge, that we believe in ourselves and in the spirit that brings victory in battle.... HOOAH - that sound of confidence, of pride, of determination.

Submitted by Kathryn McPherson, Strategic Planning Office, 618-7352. (SPO)

PEP, BIC, RAI-NC WHY ARE THESE ACROMYNS IMPORTANT TO YOU???

Because they provide potential alternative funding sources from outside of Fort Hood!

PEP = Productivity Enhancement Program
RAI-NC = Rapid Acquisition Incentives—Net Centricity
BIC = Business Initiative Committee

In the past 6 months Fort Hood Garrison SPO has submitted a total of 14 projects through channels to DA to obtain \$1.7M to fund innovative, high return on investment, transportable pilot projects at Fort Hood. And we want to send more!

-- **PEP** -- Recently we were told that the DA Executive Board ranked our PEP project for a G3 Battle Command Training Center's "Consolidated Battle Command Training Scheduling System as their #1 project to be funded. Hooah!

We asked for \$95,560 in PEP funds to save (over 6 years) \$5,456,594. This project proposed a solution to an Army-wide need for a tool to schedule assets required for multiple training events, at both the individual and collective levels. It described a new and efficient tool that will create a master calendar for all the Installation's training organizations that will schedule and allocate, while simultaneously eliminating utilization conflicts among and interact with up to 26 other scheduling systems. It accounts for training evolution, and will save a ton-o-soldier time!

-- **RAI-NC** -- The RAI-NC program is brand new this year, and provides opportunities for DoD Components at all levels to bring forth promising IT projects to be piloted that will:

- ✓ Support the advancement of net-centric tenets and transformational processes.
- ✓ Field business case-driven proof of concept pilot projects.
- ✓ Provide pilot project results capable of being scaled across the DoD Enterprise

On July 31, we submitted an RAI-NC project entitled "Corps Knowledge Management and Collaboration" (Corps Knowledge On-Line), requesting \$993K for a stellar project that can move DOD to

net-centric business transformation and ably fill the IT initiative square on the President's Management Agenda.

Solidly into the Information Age, we all have to organize ourselves around information, organically learn and adapt to the river of information created daily on the Installation! This initiative will enable personnel to synthesize and focus information, simplify processes and accelerate sound decision. From the proposal:

"Corps Knowledge Management and Collaboration aka Corps Knowledge On-line (CKO) system is a net-centric solution that leverages functionalities of Defense Collaborative Tool Suite (DCTS) COTS products. Services include exercise/event calendaring/scheduling, project management, file collaboration/processing, search engines, database, desktop conferencing, and remote access functionalities."

G3 has conducted a demonstration that proved CKO's efficacy, came-in below cost, and exceeded performance goals! CKO is easily exportable across the military since it leverages COTS and standard Army systems, working behind AKO. DA will announce RAI-NC proposals to be funded in Sep 03.

-- BIC -- If you are an innovator, an analyst, or a Resource Management type, then mark 13 November on your calendars to learn all about the DOD Business Initiative Committee programs. There will be formal classroom instruction from the principal BIC Coordinator in DOD, and additional BIC briefings to target groups.

Here are some of the ways BIC can benefit Fort Hood:

- ✓ Top Leader Support/Involvement--Top DOD levels are involved, chairs, or sits on council (DOD BIC is chaired by SecDef and Army BIC is chaired by SecArmy)

- ✓ Quick Change Process--a proposal moves from initiator to answer in 45 days
- ✓ Savings--stay at Fort Hood to be reapplied here
- ✓ Reach--can make changes that are hard due to turf issues, legislative issues, etc.
- ✓ Collaboration--more easily able to work with other agencies if problem requires joint collaboration
- ✓ BIC Loan--provides a new funding alternative starting in FY 04

For more information, contact Kathy McPherson, 618-7352, Garrison, SPO, PEP, RAI-NC, and BIC Action Officer.

Service to America Medals

Want to know what's right about Civil Service employees?

In addition to the many exceptional folks working around you right now, read about Richard Marx, the DOJ agent who supervised 1.7 million hours of sifting through the debris at ground Zero or Ray McKinney and his team who led the dramatic rescue of nine Pennsylvania miners who were trapped for four days in a cold, dank mine 240 feet below ground. There's also Jared Feinberg, a DOD who is coordinating the efforts of all the different agencies responsible for tracking the flow of money to terrorists and terrorist organizations. Or NIST employee Bert Coursey who developed an anthrax decontamination process so we can again open our mail without fear. **The list of Service To America Medal finalists goes on at:**

<http://www.govexec.com/pps/finalists.cfm>.

As you read their achievements, you can see the caliber of folks nominated for this award is the very highest! Judging must have been a great challenge. Twenty-eight federal employees were named as finalists in this year's Service to America Medals

program, from departments ranging from Justice to Labor to Homeland Security. The awards, which aim to raise public awareness of the work done by federal employees, will honor winners in the fall with cash awards ranging from \$3,000 to \$10,000. Siemens and DuPont are corporate sponsors of the 2003 awards.

The finalists were chosen from "hundreds and hundreds of wonderful nominations and truly have extraordinary stories," said Max Stier, president and CEO of the Partnership for Public Service, a nonprofit organization devoted to reviving interest in government service. **Fort Hood submitted three exceptional nominees for this award: Mike Foyle, Eddy Howton, and Gladys Yoshinaka.** (See May 03 GC Newsletter STAM article.)

High praise to Dale Smith at the 1CD Safety Office, MAJ Peter Lydon at the Provost Marshal Office, and COL Robert Hauser at the Directorate of Logistics for recognizing and promoting exceptional performance at Fort Hood!

For more information, contact Kathy McPherson, 618-7352, Garrison, SPO, STAM Action Officer.

ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF SAYS FORT HOOD'S DEPLOYMENT WARRIORS ARE THE BEST!

On 21 July, HQDA sent a message to Army announcing that **FORT HOOD WON THE 2003 ARMY**

DEPLOYMENT EXCELLENCE AWARD!

HOOAH! We knew, but now Army knows, that Fort Hood is the best at placing combat power where and when America needs it! Specifically Fort Hood won the Best Active Army Component, Installation Category. The



Second Place finisher is MG James M. Wright Deployment Center in Germany.

IMA SW Region Operations, Stewart Wyland sent this endorsement: "My heartiest personal congratulations to the entire team at Fort Hood - not only for winning the DEA for Active Army Installation Category but also for assisting the 43rd MP Detachment in winning the Small Unit Category."

The competition was stiff because lots of installations did a great job of deploying folks this past year. There are three competition categories: Installation, Deploying Unit (large and small), and Supporting Unit. There were 13 Installation Category nominations, 7 Active

The Installation Category is a bit more complicated because it not only covers deployment execution, but also requires the nominations to describe the extensive planning, preparation, and training that makes the Instand 6 Reserve. Installation deployment ready at all times, and how the Installation examines and improves from After Action Reports!

When asked to write the award, the only thing I knew about deployment was to pray for the soldiers when they left and welcome them back when they returned. While developing the nomination package and preparing the Validation Team visit I got a crash course from Fort Hood's "Deployment College" taught by dozens, representing hundreds, of **phenomenal people who make Fort Hood the "Premier Power Projection Platform" in the United States Army!!** Deployment work requires sharp, hard-working, selfless, and energetic people. These folks truly are "**Deployment Warriors**" and deserve all the accolades they get and then some.



The best work we do in Garrison is customer-focused! Here is deployment feedback from the 4ID Commander, MG Odierno and his ADC, BG Steve Speakes: Fort Hood is known as the premier power projection platform in the US. Those of us in TF Ironhorse know the truth of that claim based on our experience in deploying the Task Force this spring. I am still amazed that one post was able to orchestrate the deployment of 44 ships worth of equipment and 32 thousand personnel in coordination with MTMC and FORSCOM HQs.

More than half of the TF's personnel and equipment came from Fort Hood. This represented the largest deployment from a single Power Projection Platform since the Gulf War. The deployment validated the enormous investment that the Army and the Joint Community made in achieving improved deployability from Fort Hood. The equipment was prepared to a higher level of deployability thanks to the magnificent process in place at FH. The DRRF (Deployment Ready Reaction Field) provided us the chance to achieve wartime task organization for deployment. This was important because deploying in task-organized sets materially enhanced the employability of the Division once in the combat AOR. Equipment flow was dramatically enhanced due to the new railhead that affords deploying units access to 13 rail spurs.

Improved command and control procedures were materially enhanced by the Post's use of deployment support teams. All of

these teams made a difference in the speed of the Division's deployment.

From the pax movement standpoint the support was also world class. The Corps AG's manifesting process was simple and effective. Soldiers never waited for anything as they left the post in record numbers. The new Joint Use Army Airfield provides us the needed opportunity to support military deployability while teaming with local authorities in burden sharing.

All of us now in Iraq know that Fort Hood is a fantastic home that provides world class support to deployment and then to continuing care of the deployed force."

The Army Chief of Staff will present the Deployment Excellence Award plaque to Fort Hood on 27 August in Washington D.C.! Col Parry and others will be there to accept on behalf of LTG Metz and the Installation.

Come see the Deployment Excellence Award photo display in building 1001, first floor, center atrium, and congratulate your Installation Deployment Warriors at the Commanding General's Quarterly Hood Hero Awards Luncheon on 31 Oct 03.

For more information, contact Kathy McPherson, 618-7352, Garrison, SPO, Army Deployment Excellence Award Action Officer. (SPO)